

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 08057 071628Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
OES-07 NSF-01 COME-00 EB-08 /077 W
-----006001 072145Z /64

R 071613Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8243
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 08057

USEEC AND EMBASSY BRUSSELS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TGEN, FR
SUBJECT: SCIENCE OFFICIALS VIEW OF POSSIBLE
SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT.

1. WITH THE LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS LESS THAN A WEEK
AWAY, THE EMBASSY - WITHOUT MAKING ANY ATTEMPTS AT
PREDICTIONS - SUMMARIZES A FEW VIEWPOINTS OF MIDDLE
AND SENIOR LEVEL OFFICIALS IN THE FRENCH SCIENCE

ESTABLISHMENT ON WHAT KIND OF CHANGES IN THAT ESTAB-
LISHMENT A LEFT VICTORY WOULD BRING. OUR SOURCES
VARY WIDELY IN THEIR POLITICAL OUTLOOK, FROM CONSERVA-
TIVE SOCIALIST TO RIGHT WING GAULLIST. BUT WHAT
EMERGES FROM DIRECT CONVERSATIONS WITH THEM AND
PASSIVE PARTICIPATION IN SOME OF THEIR CONVERSATIONS
AMONG THEMSELVES IS THAT THEY ALL THINK A SOCIALIST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 08057 071628Z

REGIME WOULD GIVE A HIGHER PRIORITY TO GOVERNMENT
INVOLVEMENT IN BASIC RESEARCH THAN THE PRESENT ONE.
THIS OPINION COMES BOTH FROM OFFICIALS WHO CLEARLY
FAVOR THE SOCIALISTS AND OTHERS VERY MUCH AGAINST THAT
POLITICAL PERSUASION. THOSE WHO WOULD BE DISAPPOINTED
BY A SOCIALIST VICTORY FORESEE A CHANGE FROM THE
INDUSTRY-ORIENTED RESEARCH PURSUED BY SOME FRENCH

ORGANIZATIONS TO A MORE BASIC AND ABSTRACT TYPE.

2. AMONG THOSE WHO FORESEE GREAT CHANGES IN THE
EVENT OF A LEFT VICTORY IS A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF
CENTRE NATIONALE POUR L'EXPLOITATION DES OCEANS (CNEXO).

HE BELIEVES HIS AGENCY'S PURSUIT OF SUCH PRACTICAL
GOALS AS MINERAL EXPLORATION AND FISH BREEDING WOULD
BE REPLACED BY MORE ABSTRACT PROJECTS. MUCH THE SAME
VIEW WAS EXPRESSED BY A MID-LEVEL OFFICER IN THE
CENTRE NATIONAL POUR LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE (CNRS),
BUT WITH THE EXACT OPPOSITE PREFERENCE. THIS OFFICIAL'S
OPINION WAS THAT A SOCIALIST REGIME WOULD FAVOR MORE
THAN THE PRESENT ONE THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT
IN BASIC, FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH. AND AN OFFICIAL OF
THE DGRST BELIEVED THAT THE SOCIALISTS WOULD SET UP
STILL ANOTHER ORGANIZATION TO COORDINATE RESEARCH
AMONG THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, OR POSSIBLY EVEN
ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH A SEPARATE SCIENCE MINISTRY.

3. THOSE WHO DID NOT FORESEE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES WERE
TOP LEVEL OFFICIALS OF CNEXO AND OFFICE DE LA RECHERCHE
SCIENTIFIQUE ET TECHNIQUE D'OUTRE-MER (ORSTOM). THEY
NOTE THAT SCIENCE AS SUCH IS BARELY MENTIONED IN
OFFICIAL PARTY LITERATURE AND ANTICIPATE CHANGES ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 08057 071628Z

IN FIGUREHEAD POSTS AT THE VERY TOP.

4. OUR CONTACTS HAD NO VIEWS AT ALL ON COMMUNIST
SCIENCE POLICY. THEIR ASSUMPTION APPEARS TO BE THAT
THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY WOULD HAVE NO ROLE IN
SCIENCE POLICY.

5. COMMENT: WE TEND NOT TO FORESEE ANY PROFOUND
CHANGES IN THE GOF SCIENCE ESTABLISHMENT OR IN OUR
SCIENTIFIC RELATIONS WITH THE GOF UNDER A SOCIALIST
GOVERNMENT.

HARTMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS08057
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780103-0354
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780398/aaaadesk.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 98c632cc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3417327
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SCIENCE OFFICIALS VIEW OF POSSIBLE SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT.
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TGEN, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/98c632cc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014